

**TOOLS FOR SECURING CONNECTORS USING EXPLOSIVE CHARGES
AND METHODS FOR USING THE SAME**

ABSTRACT

A tool for securing a connector on a conductor using an explosive charge includes a first tool member and a second tool member movably mounted on the first tool member. A breech chamber is defined in at least one of the first and second tool members. The breech chamber is adapted to receive the explosive charge. A breech opening is defined in at least one of the first and second tool members and communicates with the breech chamber. A drive member is provided. The tool is adapted to forcibly move the drive member responsive to an explosion of the explosive charge in the breech chamber. The second tool member is movable between a closed position, wherein the breech opening is closed, and an open position, wherein the breech opening is open to allow loading and unloading of the explosive charge into and from the breech chamber, by sliding the second tool member relative to the first tool member along a slide axis and additionally pivoting the second tool member relative to the first tool member about a pivot axis transverse to the slide axis.